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## NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7590 06/19/2002  
RICHARD L. MILLER  
12 Parkside Drive  
Dix Hills, NY 11746-4879

EXAMINER

HSIEH, SHIH YUNG

ART UNIT

CLASS-SUBCLASS

2837

084-327000

DATE MAILED: 06/19/2002

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/777,299	02/06/2001	Bruce L. Warden	WARB10A	5706

TITLE OF INVENTION: DEVICE FOR PREVENTING UNINTENTIONAL REMOVAL OF AN END OF A GUITAR STRAP FROM AN ENGAGED GUITAR STRAP PEG OF A GUITAR

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	YES	\$640	\$300	\$940	09/19/2002

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

## HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above. If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is changed, pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above and notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or

B. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check the box below and enclose the PUBLICATION FEE and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

☐ Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status.  
See 37 CFR 1.27.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.



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09/777,299	02/06/2001	Bruce L. Warden	WARB10A	5706
7590 06/19/2002			EXAMINER	
RICHARD L. MILLER 12 Parkside Drive Dix Hills, NY 11746-4879			HSIEH, SHIH YUNG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2837

DATE MAILED: 06/19/2002

**Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)**  
(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The patent term adjustment to date is 0 days. If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the term adjustment will be 0 days.

If a continued prosecution application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines patent term adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. (<http://pair.uspto.gov>)

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.  
09/777,299

Applicant(s)

Warden

Examiner

Shih-yung Hsieh

Art Unit

2837



--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

**THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/21/2002
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 4-9, 11, and 13
3. ☒ The drawings filed on Feb 6, 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_
5. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
  - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto    or    2) ☐ to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the examiner.
    - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the top margin (not the back) of each sheet. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.
9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                    | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____    |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449), Paper No(s). _____          | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
| 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |  |

SHIH-YUNG HSIEH  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

## PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail** Box ISSUE FEE  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
**Fax** (703)746-4000

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 4 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Legibly mark-up with any corrections or use Block 1)

7590 06/19/2002  
RICHARD L. MILLER  
12 Parkside Drive  
Dix Hills, NY 11746-4879

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission. As Article No. **EL 688860820US** I hereby certify that on the below indicated date this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to:  
U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 2327  
ARLINGTON, VA 22202

By: *Richard L. Miller* Date: Aug. 13, 2002  
Richard L. Miller, Agent for Applicant

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/777,299 02/06/2001 Bruce L. Warden WARB10A 5706

TITLE OF INVENTION: DEVICE FOR PREVENTING UNINTENTIONAL REMOVAL OF AN END OF A GUITAR STRAP FROM AN ENGAGED GUITAR STRAP PEG OF A GUITAR

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
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nonprovisional YES \$640 \$300 \$940 09/19/2002

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
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HSIEH, SHIH YUNG 2837 084-327000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.

☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.

2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1. RICHARD L. MILLER  
2. REGISTERED PATENT AGENT  
3.

### 3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an assignment has been previously submitted to the USPTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY AND STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent)

☐ individual ☐ corporation or other private group entity ☐ government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

4b. Payment of Fee(s):

☒ Issue Fee

☒ A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.

☒ Publication Fee

☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

☐ Advance Order - # of Copies \_\_\_\_\_

☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

Commissioner for Patents is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.

(Authorized Signature)

(Date)

*Richard L. Miller* Aug 12, 2002

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant, a registered attorney or agent, or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual

08/27/2002	00000088	7	242	-\$640.00	08/13/2002	OP
08/27/2002	00000089	7	195	-\$300.00	08/13/2002	OP
08/15/2002	00000360	1	242	\$640.00	08/13/2002	CK
08/15/2002	00000361	1	195	\$300.00	08/13/2002	CK

Judith A. Warden  
Bruce L. Warden  
1603 Columbia Ave.  
Belvidere, IL 61008

SN: 09/777,299

8802

Date: August 8, 2002

62-48  
311

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Warden

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U.S. PATENT OFFICE

Signature

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815-943-4282

# POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE



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### FROM: (PLEASE PRINT)

PHONE (631) 490-4343

**RICHARD L. MILLER**  
Registered Patent Agent  
12 Parkside Drive  
Dix Hills, NY 11746-4879

### TO: (PLEASE PRINT)

PHONE (703) 308-6906

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P.O. BOX 2327  
ARLINGTON, VA 22202

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## HON. COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS

Acknowledges receipt of PART B-FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL  
NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE DATED: 2002-08-19

DOC. #. WARB10A

SC/SN: 09/777209

FILED: 2001-02-06

GROUP: 2837

APPLICANT: Bruce L. Warden

INVENTION: DEVICE FOR PREVENTING UNINTENTIONAL REMOVAL  
AN END OF A GUITAR STRAP FROM AN ENLARGED GUITAR  
PEG OF A GUITAR

FEE: \$940.00

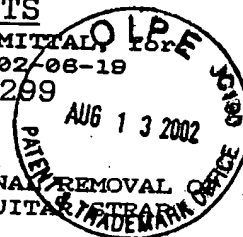
DUE DATE: 2002-09-19

APPLICANT'S [✓]

CHECK [✓]

AGENT RLM'S [ ]

BANK/POSTAL MONEY ORDER [ ]



4461